

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment B is in response to the Office Action of August 24, 2005. The Applicants again thank the Examiner for his time during the November 2, 2005 telephonic interview in which all pending matters were discussed. The outstanding Office Action rejects Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 20-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over *Kalb, Jr.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,177)(hereinafter *Kalb*). Additionally, Claims 7 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over *Kalb* in view of *Miller* (U.S. Patent No. 5,889,408)(hereinafter *Miller*)

These grounds of rejection are addressed in detail by the remarks below. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested based on the amendments made and the following remarks.

Claims 1 and 21-23 are amended herein. Claims 5, 6, 20, and 24 are cancelled in this amendment (along with previously cancelled Claim 18). Claims 25 and 26 are added to the application. Accordingly, Claims 1-4, 7-17, 19, 20-23 and 25-26 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over *Kalb*. Also, Claims 20-24 are also rejected over the same art. As currently constructed these claims now fall into two groups (including added claims). They will be discussed accordingly.

Claims 1-15:

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to recite a functional relationship "wherein the first and second voltages are set within a range of about 50 to 140 % of a nominal supply voltage for the device". This is more in line with the limitations of Claims 11 & 12 which are deemed allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, the Applicants believe that Claim 1 should now be in condition for allowance.

Additionally, the dependent Claims 2-15 (which all now depend from allowable Claim 1) are believed allowable over the cited art for at least the reasons discussed with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, in view of the amendments made and the discussions above, it is respectfully
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submitted that Claims 1-15 are allowable over the cited art. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending §102 rejection of Claims 1-15.

Claims 16 and 17:

Claims 16 and 17 have also been rejected under §102 as being anticipated by *Kalb*. However, upon discussing these rejections with Examiner Hollington, he confirmed that these claims were in fact allowable as indicated elsewhere in the pending action. Therefore applicants respectfully submit that Claims 16 and 17 are allowable.

Claims 20-24:

Claims 20 and 24 have been cancelled obviating the instant rejections as to those Claims.

Claims 21-23 has been amended to depend from Claim 1 which (as previously discussed) recites a functional relationship "wherein the first and second voltages are set within a range of about 60 to 140 % of a nominal supply voltage for the device". As discussed previously, these claims are now amended to depend from a claim believed to be allowable. Accordingly, the Applicants believe that Claims 21-23 should now be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, in view of the amendments made and the discussions above, it is respectfully submitted that "rejected" Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 21-23 are allowable over the cited art. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending §102 rejections of Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 21-23.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 7 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kalb* in view of *Miller*. The following discussion covers these claims.

As to Claim 19, this rejection was discussed with Examiner Hollington, he confirmed that Claim 19 was in fact also allowable as indicated elsewhere in the pending action. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that Claim 19 is allowable.

As to Claim 7, this claim depends from amended Claim 1, which is discussed above. It is fair to say that none of the cited art addresses the limitations first and second voltages that are set within the range of about 50 to 140 % of a nominal supply voltage for the device (as in Claim 1). Absent such teachings the cited references, either alone or in any reasonable combination fail

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to teach all of the claim the limitations. Accordingly, the references are insufficient to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness as to the pending claims. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request that the cited grounds of rejection for Claims 7 and 19 be withdrawn.

New Claims

Claims 25 and 26 are added in this amendment. Claim 25 is Claim 10 crafted into independent form. Claim 26 is merely Claim 15 crafted as an independent claim. Since both of these claims are deemed allowable in the pending Action. The applicants respectfully submit that this is the case for these claims. Accordingly it is believed that these claims should be allowable.

Informalities

Claims 5 and 6 were deemed objectionable. These claims are cancelled, obviating these objections.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-12, 15, and 18 are deemed allowable. After clarification the applicants have determined that it is Claim 19 that is allowable rather than cancelled Claim 18. The allowability of these claims is addressed in amended Claim 1 and also allowable Claim 16 which are the base claims affecting these claims.

Also, The applicants thank the Examiner for his kind indication of allowable subject matter as to Claims 16, 17, and 19.

Conclusion:

As has been discussed herein, it is submitted that the cited references, alone or in any combination, do not teach or suggest the features of the claimed invention. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that remaining pending Claims 1-17 and 19-24 are patentably distinct from the cited art. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of these claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable and that this case is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner wish to contact the prosecuting attorney for any reason, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned at Examiner's convenience at the telephone number set out below.

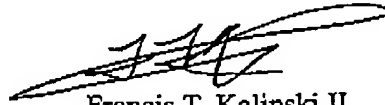
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If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from Deposit Account No. 12-2252 (Order No. 03-0724).

Respectfully submitted,

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